

ABSTRACT

The image processing apparatus and method for interpreting the printing data, and developing the data into bit map data in every drawing band unit. An upside-down print setting unit sets upside-down printing for printing by reversing
5 the data from the end drawing band to the head band. A band selecting unit selects a drawing band based upon the information from the upside-down print setting unit while referring to a link list having arrangement information of plural drawing bands. A compression direction determining unit determines the
10 information from the upside-down print setting unit. A data compressing unit compresses the data of the selected drawing band according to the determined sequence. This apparatus is applicable to variable length compression method because the data inversion is executed simultaneously with compression process in drawing band unit.